



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/477,452	01/04/2000	HIRONORI KANNO	826.153CIP/J	9246

21171 7590 01/24/2007
STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

SINGH, RACHNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2176

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/24/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/18/06 has been entered.
2. Claims 1 and 3-8 are pending. Claims 1, 3, and 4-6 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 and 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sallette, US 6,155,840, 12/5/00 (filed 9/18/98) in view of Logan et al., US Patent 6,199,076 B1, filed 10/2/96 and Sakagawa, US 5,774,662, 06/30/98.

In reference to claims 1 and 3, Sallette teaches a system and method for distributed learning that includes a learning server coupled to presenter and audience computer systems via a network. See abstract. Sallette's system comprises the following features:

- A control module that controls interactions between the presenter and the audience computer systems. The presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an "address" field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data. See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to view a particular Internet web page. See column 6. Compare to ***"a presenter controlled control unit obtaining URL information defined on a World Wide Web network and used by the presenter to output information on the local side computer terminal"***.
- A control module for controlling interactions between the presenter and the audience. Sources of data and their respective address on the network (URL) are transmitted to the audience from the presenter computer. The presenter computer is used by the presenter to communicate with audience members and control information that appears on the audience member's computers. The audience member uses the audience computer system to receive the presentation from the presenter. See columns 4-5 and abstract. Compare to ***"an interface unit transmitting a plurality of pieces of obtained URL information one by one to the remote side computer terminals, and***

for instructing an output of information by the remote side computers corresponding to the transmitted pieces of URL information as controlled by the presenter”.

Sallette teaches that the presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an “address” field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data (URL). See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to view a particular Internet web page. See column 6. Sallette teaches that the source of data having the address information and data can be displayed and associated with the a sequence (i.e. video stream). See column 7.

Sallette does not teach that the sequence comprises sequence numbers representing the output sequence; however, Logan teaches a program segment identification number representing the output sequence. See column 12. Logan further teaches that a hyperlink (URL) can be directed to a program segment which has a ProgramID number. See column 31. The segment can jump to the hyperlink material. Logan teaches a correspondence between an address and a sequence number. See column 31. In playing program segments in an order determined by a session schedule which identifies an ordered sequence of program segments, the designated portion may be a hyperlink. The session schedule is created by a server system that develops and periodically transmits to the session schedule. See columns 2-3 and 6. It would have

Art Unit: 2176

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to associate address information with a sequence number as taught by Logan (associating a hyperlink with the ProgramID number of the segment. See columns 2-3, 12, and 31) with Sallette's system for providing a presentation to an audience using a predetermined streaming data source with associated addresses because it allows the pre-selected sources of data to be synchronized with the correct address information using sequence numbers that correlate to the segment portion. This would allow a user to jump to a different portion of the output sequence (or slide show) and maintain address information.

Neither Sallette nor Logan teach ***"storing an address table which includes respective terminal addresses of the local side computer terminal and remote side computer terminals and includes flag information indicating whether each of the terminal addresses is to be notified of the URL information" or "determines whether each of the local side computer terminal and the remote side computer terminals is to be notified of the determined piece of URL information by referring to the address table and causes data accessed using the URL information to be displayed at predetermined intervals via each remote side computer terminal determined to be notified of the URL information"***. However, Sakagawa teaches a system for server obtaining terminal address from an address table. Sakagawa teaches receiving a terminal address interrogation request from a terminal, references to an address table and searches for a terminal address corresponding to the protocol address located in the interrogation request and determines whether the protocol

Art Unit: 2176

address is contained in the interrogation request agrees with its own protocol address and notifies the server of its own terminal address if agreement is received.

Although Sakagawa does not state the address is URL information, when combined with Sallette and Logan, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa's teachings of returning address information to further return URL information because a MAC address uniquely identifies each node of a network using an IP address and a URL also specifies the IP address. Thus a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa to return URL information when returning address information in a system of Sallette/Logan because identifying the IP address of a terminal was useful when communicating with a plurality of other terminals especially with the system of Sallette/Logan where a slide show system is transmitting URL information to a plurality of remote side terminals. See Sakagawa, columns 1-2.

In reference to claims 4 and 5, Sallette teaches that the presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an "address" field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data (URL). See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to view a particular Internet web page. See column 6. Sallette teaches that the source of data having the address information

Art Unit: 2176

and data can be displayed and associated with a sequence (i.e. video stream). See column 7.

Sallette does not teach that ***the sequence comprises sequence numbers representing the output sequence***; however, Logan teaches a program segment identification number representing the output sequence. See column 12. Logan further teaches that a hyperlink can be directed to a program segment which has a ProgramID number. See column 31. The segment can jump to the hyperlink material. Logan teaches a correspondence between an address and a sequence number. See column 31. In playing program segments in an order determined by a session schedule which identifies an ordered sequence of program segments, the designated portion may be a hyperlink. The session schedule is created by a server system that develops and periodically transmits to the session schedule. See columns 2-3 and 6. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to associate address information with a sequence number as taught by Logan (associating a hyperlink with the ProgramID number of the segment. See columns 2-3, 12, and 31) with Sallette's system for providing a presentation to an audience using a predetermined streaming data source with associated addresses because it allows the pre-selected sources of data to be synchronized with the correct address information using sequence numbers that correlate to the segment portion. This would allow a user to jump to a different portion of the output sequence (or slide show) and maintain address information.

Neither Sallette nor Logan teaches ***“determining whether each of the local side presenter controlled computer terminal. . .is to be notified of the URL information”***; however, Sakagawa teaches a system for server obtaining terminal address from an address table. Sakagawa teaches receiving a terminal address interrogation request from a terminal, references to an address table and searches for a terminal address corresponding to the protocol address located in the interrogation request and determines whether the protocol address is contained in the interrogation request agrees with its own protocol address and notifies the server of its own terminal address if agreement is received. Although Sakagawa does not state the address is URL information, when combined with Sallette and Logan, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa's teachings of returning address information to further return URL information because a MAC address uniquely identifies each node of a network using an IP address and a URL also specifies the IP address. Thus a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa to return URL information when returning address information in a system of Sallette/Logan because identifying the IP address of a terminal was useful when communicating with a plurality of other terminals especially with the system of Sallette/Logan where a slide show system is transmitting URL information to a plurality of remote side terminals. See Sakagawa, columns 1-2.

In reference to claim 6, Sallette teaches a system and method for distributed learning that includes a learning server coupled to presenter and audience computer

Art Unit: 2176

systems via a network. See abstract. Sallette's system comprises the following features:

-A control module that controls interactions between the presenter and the audience computer systems. The presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an "address" field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data (URL). See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to view a particular Internet web page. See column 6. Compare to ***"obtaining a sequence of material segments to be presented and selected by a presenter, with the segments having corresponding URL's in a presenter controlled first computer"***.

-A control module for controlling interactions between the presenter and the audience. Sources of data and their respective address on the network are transmitted to the audience from the presenter computer. The presenter computer is used by the presenter to communicate with audience members and control information that appears on the audience member's computers. The audience member uses the audience computer system to receive the presentation from the presenter. See columns 4-5 and abstract. Compare to ***"an interface unit transmitting a plurality of pieces of obtained address information one by one to the remote side computer terminals, and for instructing an output of information by the remote side computers"***

corresponding to the transmitted pieces of address information as controlled by the presenter”.

-Transmitting address information of the source of data. The address is in the form of a Internet Protocol address or Domain Name System specifying the location of the source of data on the Internet. When content is received outside the presenter's computer, like when the content is a web page or coming from a remote location, the content is displayed as it is received from the learning server. See columns 7-8. Compare to ***“transmitting by a second computer, the URL's one at a time to third computers in accordance with the sequence; retrieving, by the third computers, the segments from the presenter controlled first computer responsive to the addresses; and presenting, by the third computers, the material segments to users”.*** The presence of a server computer indicates that information can be delivered to remote and local computer terminals as well as a second and third computer in the network. See columns 7-8. Transmitting a hyperlink from one computer to another is a feature occurring in computers in a network system thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to retrieve, transmit, and present segments on various computers. Sallette teaches that the presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an “address” field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data. See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to

Art Unit: 2176

view a particular Internet web page. See column 6. Sallette teaches that the source of data having the address information and data can be displayed and associated with the a sequence (i.e. video stream). See column 7.

Sallette does not teach that the sequence comprises sequence numbers representing the output sequence; however, Logan teaches a program segment identification number representing the output sequence. See column 12. Logan further teaches that a hyperlink can be directed to a program segment which has a ProgramID number. See column 31. The segment can jump to the hyperlink material. Logan teaches a correspondence between an address and a sequence number. See column 31. In playing program segments in an order determined by a session schedule which identifies an ordered sequence of program segments, the designated portion may be a hyperlink. The session schedule is created by a server system that develops and periodically transmits to the session schedule. See columns 2-3 and 6. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to associate address information with a sequence number as taught by Logan (associating a hyperlink with the ProgramID number of the segment. See columns 2-3, 12, and 31) with Sallette's system for providing a presentation to an audience using a predetermined streaming data source with associated addresses because it allows the pre-selected sources of data to be synchronized with the correct address information using sequence numbers that correlate to the segment portion. This would allow a user to jump to a different portion of the output sequence (or slide show) and maintain address information.

Neither Sallette nor Logan teach ***“determining whether third computers are to receive the segments by referring to an address table which includes respective address. . .each of the computers are to receive the segments”***; however, Sakagawa teaches a system for server obtaining terminal address from an address table. Sakagawa teaches receiving a terminal address interrogation request from a terminal, references to an address table and searches for a terminal address corresponding to the protocol address located in the interrogation request and determines whether the protocol address is contained in the interrogation request agrees with its own protocol address and notifies the server of its own terminal address if agreement is received. Although Sakagawa does not state the address is URL information, when combined with Sallette and Logan, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa’s teachings of returning address information to further return URL information because a MAC address uniquely identifies each node of a network using an IP address and a URL also specifies the IP address. Thus a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa to return URL information when returning address information in a system of Sallette/Logan because identifying the IP address of a terminal was useful when communicating with a plurality of other terminals especially with the system of Sallette/Logan where a slide show system is transmitting URL information to a plurality of remote side terminals. See Sakagawa, columns 1-2.

In reference to claims 7-8, Sallette does not teach storing bookmark data caused to be registered into at least on of the computer terminals based on an instruction from

Art Unit: 2176

a local terminal; however, Logan teaches the player subsystem includes a means for identifying a program segment, or a particular passage within a program segment, as a bookmarked item for ease of reference later. See column 3, lines 32-54. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a bookmark in the system of Sallette as taught by Logan since this annotation mechanism may be used to particular advantage when the program segments provided to the subscriber may be used to identify specific messages, or portions thereof, which require later attention, and the annotation mechanism provides a convenient mechanism for dictating replies and/or specifying actions to be take in response to particular messages or portions thereof.

In reference to claim 9, Sallette teaches a system and method for distributed learning that includes a learning server coupled to presenter and audience computer systems via a network. See abstract. Sallette's system comprises the following features:

-A control module that controls interactions between the presenter and the audience computer systems. The presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an "address" field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data. See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to view a

Art Unit: 2176

particular Internet web page. See column 6. A control module for controlling interactions between the presenter and the audience. Sources of data and their respective address on the network (URL) are transmitted to the audience from the presenter computer. The presenter computer is used by the presenter to communicate with audience members and control information that appears on the audience member's computers. The audience member uses the audience computer system to receive the presentation from the presenter. See columns 4-5 and abstract. Compare to ***"storing URL information of web pages"***.

Sallette teaches that the presenter computer system sets up a presentation and pre-selects streaming data sources that will be used in the presentation. The presenter can pre-select the sources of data. The display includes an "address" field for allowing the presenter to submit the address on the network of the source of data (URL). See abstract and column 7, lines 1-6. The presenter can configure a presentation to provide a slide presentation to the audience members (i.e. PowerPoint slide presentation) or to view a particular Internet web page. See column 6. Sallette teaches that the source of data having the address information and data can be displayed and associated with the a sequence (i.e. video stream). See column 7.

Sallette does not teach that the URL information is stored in accordance with a series of display sequence numbers; however, Logan teaches a program segment identification number representing the output sequence. See column 12. Logan further teaches that a hyperlink (URL) can be directed to a program segment which has a ProgramID number. See column 31. The segment can jump to the hyperlink material.

Logan teaches a correspondence between an address and a sequence number. See column 31. In playing program segments in an order determined by a session schedule which identifies an ordered sequence of program segments, the designated portion may be a hyperlink. The session schedule is created by a server system that develops and periodically transmits to the session schedule. See columns 2-3 and 6. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to associate address information with a sequence number as taught by Logan (associating a hyperlink with the ProgramID number of the segment. See columns 2-3, 12, and 31) with Sallette's system for providing a presentation to an audience using a predetermined streaming data source with associated addresses because it allows the pre-selected sources of data to be synchronized with the correct address information using sequence numbers that correlate to the segment portion. This would allow a user to jump to a different portion of the output sequence (or slide show) and maintain address information.

Neither Sallette nor Logan teach ***"identifying terminals among the multiple terminals indicated to be notified of the URL information based on addresses of said terminals; and selectively displaying data accessible using the URL information via the terminals identified at intervals specified by the presenter, where the URL information is stored as a bookmark on said terminals identified responsive to an instruction from the presenter."*** However, Sakagawa teaches a system for server obtaining terminal address from an address table. Sakagawa teaches receiving a terminal address interrogation request from a terminal, references to an

Art Unit: 2176

address table and searches for a terminal address corresponding to the protocol address located in the interrogation request and determines whether the protocol address is contained in the interrogation request agrees with its own protocol address and notifies the server of its own terminal address if agreement is received. Although Sakagawa does not state the address is URL information, when combined with Sallette and Logan, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa's teachings of returning address information to further return URL information because a MAC address uniquely identifies each node of a network using an IP address and a URL also specifies the IP address. Thus a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa to return URL information when returning address information in a system of Sallette/Logan because identifying the IP address of a terminal was useful when communicating with a plurality of other terminals especially with the system of Sallette/Logan where a slide show system is transmitting URL information to a plurality of remote side terminals. See Sakagawa, columns 1-2.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's amendments and arguments filed 12/18/06 have been considered.

Applicant argues Logan does not teach outputting content based on "sequence numbers" and "flag information" to terminal addresses. Examiner disagrees because

Art Unit: 2176

both Sallette and Logan teach obtaining URL information on a WWW information network and storing a correspondence relationship between URL information and sequence numbers. While Sallette and Logan do not teach ***“storing an address table which includes respective terminal addresses of the local side computer terminal and remote side computer terminals and includes flag information indicating whether each of the terminal addresses is to be notified of the URL information”*** or ***“determines whether each of the local side computer terminal and the remote side computer terminals is to be notified of the determined piece of URL information by referring to the address table”***, Sakagawa teaches a system for server obtaining terminal address from an address table. Sakagawa teaches receiving a terminal address interrogation request from a terminal, references to an address table and searches for a terminal address corresponding to the protocol address located in the interrogation request and determines whether the protocol address is contained in the interrogation request agrees with its own protocol address and notifies the server of its own terminal address if agreement is received.

Although Sakagawa does not state the address is URL information, when combined with Sallette and Logan, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa's teachings of returning address information to further return URL information because a MAC address uniquely identifies each node of a network using an IP address and a URL also specifies the IP address. Thus a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have modified Sakagawa to return URL information when returning address information in a system of

Art Unit: 2176


Sallette/Logan because identifying the IP address of a terminal was useful when communicating with a plurality of other terminals especially with the system of Sallette/Logan where a slide show system is transmitting URL information to a plurality of remote side terminals. See Sakagawa, columns 1-2.

In view of the comments above, the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachna Singh whose telephone number is 571-272-4099. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30AM-6:00PM). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Rachna Singh
01/19/07